

REMARKS

Claims 34-51 are pending in this application, of which Claims 34-45 are in independent form and have been amended as to matters of form not narrowing the scope of any claim recitation. Non-elected Claims 1-33 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. It is noted that Claims 47-51 were previously amended (in a Preliminary Amendment filed December 13, 2000) to eliminate multiple dependencies.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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